## Mulga Parrot Psophotus varius Species No.: 296 Band size: 23



## Morphometrics:

Adult Male Adult Female 127 – 148 mm 123 – 137 mm Wing: Tail: 155 – 186 mm 154 - 174 mm Weight: 50 - 71 g51 - 66 g

Ageing:

Adult (2+) Bill: upper mandible light blue-grey with

grey-black tip and darker grey

cutting edge;

Juvenile

upper mandible orange-yellow to orange-buff with slightly darker cutting edge; lower mandible darker orange-yellow, but bill colour starts to change to adult colour from c. 4 weeks:

Immatures attain full adult plumage from commencement of second pre-basic moult at c. 12 months from fledging coinciding with adult post breeding moult. Thus adults aged (2+).

## Sexing:

Sexes are plumage dimorphic at all ages;

Male

Head: mostly blue-green with yellow frontal

> band and contrasting maroon or red-brown patch on hindcrown & nape;

Shoulder patch: adult yellow

juvenile & immature have an off-white Underwing:

bar like females, absent in adult;

mostly dull green with exposed light

grey-brown bases to feathers making crown appear dull and mottled with straw yellow frontal band and rufous-

**Female** 

brown hindcrown and nape:

adult - dull orange or orange-rufous; off-white underwing bar all ages;

Incubation by female alone.